Cedar Glen Disaster Recovery Redevelopment Project Area Project Area Committee

Wednesday, March 30, 2005
"Open Town Hall Meeting" - Fire Station 91
301 S. State Highway 173, Lake Arrowhead, CA
7:00 PM

MINUTES

Meeting called to order by Chairman Pretzinger at 7:00 p.m.

Members Present

Dick Pretzinger Resident Owner-Occupant (Chair)

Kevin Ryan Resident Owner-Occupant

Peter Markovich
Lorrie Monson
Wayne Palmer
Business Owner
Resident Tenant
Christmas in April

Members Absent

Larry Doetsch Resident Second-Home Owner

Chuck Peters Lake Arrowhead Comm. Chamber of Commerce (Vice Chair)

Staff Present

Jim Foster Chief of Staff, 3rd Supervisorial District

Martin Payne Senator Dutton's Office

Peter Brierty Fire Marshal, County Fire Department

Community Members Present

There are over 55 community members present.

New Business

PAC member Pete Markovich led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

PAC member Lorrie Monson presented and read her letter of resignation. She is no longer renting in the redevelopment area and, therefore, cannot represent the renters. Her resignation was acknowledged and accepted.

Chairman Pretzinger introduced Darrel Davis to update the community on the issues regarding Arrowhead Manor Water Company (AMW). Darrel Davis reported that the gross annual income of the company was \$391,000 and the expenses were \$389,000 for the 2004 tax year.

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AMW is experiencing water theft. People are filling water tank trucks from the hydrants in the Cedar Glen area without the use of a hydrant meter and are stealing water from the system. AMW is offering a \$200 credit to any resident that can get a photo of the person(s) responsible for the water theft. AMW has completed the fire flow tests for the district and they are available at the office. The cost of "will serve" letters has been raised to \$500.

Chairman Pretzinger introduced Gary Jennings from Vereer Business Management & Merger Acquisitions to inform the community of the status of the AMW. Gary Jennings informed the community that AMW is not in bankruptcy in the eyes of the court. AMW must be sold in order to pay bad debts. Eligible parties to buy AMW are businesses and individuals, and it will be sold to the highest bidder. The state prefers the community to buy AMW and hire a licensed company to manage AMW as required by the Department of Health Services.

PAC Member Pete Markovich addressed Jim Foster in regard to the priorities of the ideas PAC member Markovich presented to CoRDA. Jim Foster reported that Supervisor Hansberger's office had received the proposal from Markovich and they are working on a response to the proposal. Due to the extreme weather and flooding issues Hansberger's office has been involved with, there has been a delay in responding to PAC member Markovich's proposal. Mr. Foster hopes to have answers to the questions brought up in the proposal on Saturday at the Redevelopment meeting to be held at Lake Arrowhead Elementary.

Chairman Pretzinger took an opportunity to thank Rebuilding Mountain Hearts and Lives and especially David Stewart for all their help in getting this meeting together in accordance with the Brown Act.

Public Comments

There were 13 request-to-speak forms filled out by community members.

Comments regarding roads – Many community members expressed concern for the road situation. The area needs improvements made to the current road situation without excessively penalizing the property owners. Maybe in some areas the roads do not have to be a full 20' wide.

Comments regarding water and sewer – Community members also commented on the priority of having a stable water company and sewers, as opposed to septic systems and holding tanks. It is not feasible to expect ¼ million dollar homes to be built with holding tanks. There needs to be water and sewer to attract people to rebuild. If there are too many problems and hold-ups, the property owners will be discouraged and will not rebuild.

Comments regarding second exit – The development of a second way out of Cedar Glen is also a high priority in the eyes of the community. There was much discussion on this issue.

Comments regarding area development – Community members are generally against commercial development in the neighborhood of Cedar Glen. One community member

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expressed that he does not want street lamps, he likes the hamlet community which is why most people decided to live there.

Committee Members Comments

PAC Member Markovich urged the community to list priorities and send letters to the local representatives in accordance with the Brown Act.

Public Comments

San Bernardino County Fire Marshall Peter Brierty commented on the misunderstanding of the "Red Zones." Brierty explained the development of a rating system in which the fire departments across the mountain have implemented in order to reduce the loss of life in the event of a large fire. The "Zones" were developed to give firefighters from other areas the knowledge and confidence in protecting our mountain areas. There are areas of higher risk and areas that can pose some dangerous situations, these areas are labeled as "Red Zones." The "Red Zone" does not mean that the fire department is not going to protect that area. There is no way that a fire department can decide not to protect certain areas. The development of zoning helped to save thousands of homes in the mountain area. Due to the extreme circumstances during the Old Fire, the resources were not available. The Old Fire was #12 on the list of resources, and there was not enough to go around.

There was some discussion about eminent domain. Jim Foster from Supervisor Hansberger's office stated that the eminent domain is only for emergency situations, and it will not be used excessively. "We are not in the business of taking people's homes," Foster stated. He also advised the community to attend the meeting on Saturday and there will be more answers.

Adjournment at 8:25 p.m.

Approval

Chairman